Period: Date: Name:

**Solar Activity and Climate Change Inquiry Activity**

There are many two-sided issues in science. One group of scientists and researches may conclude one thing, while another group, working with different data or off of different principles may conclude another. In science these issues are said to be “up for debate” and the published literature regarding the subject often changes with time as new ideas and evidence is gathered. Some issues can become impassioned (heated) as they may affect laws and regulations citizens are asked to abide by in their day to day lives. Most scientific debates involve theories or ideas that are relatively untested/unverified by experiments, or those which present difficulties in testing, or those which fly in the face of accepted scientific laws. Today, you will research such a “hot topic” – the concept of global climate change (global warming) and the idea that solar activity and climate change are closely related.

**Directions:** Complete all written work in your notebook. Read pg. 691 in the Pearson online textbook, and then complete the first question.

1. \*Read pg. 691 first!! Identify the main idea of the debate in question on pg. 691 as well as EACH SIDE of the debate in one paragraph.

2. Research and gather at least **three sources of evidence/support for each side**. Though you may have your own opinion already, try not to focus on supporting “your” side. Explore the internet searching for articles, YouTube videos, website content, experiments and data involving the issue of solar activity and climate change. **CITE EACH RESOURCE USED BY RECORDING THE WEBSITE, TITLE OF ARTICLE, VIDEO, EXPERIMENT OR DATA TABLE.**  Also, summarize the main idea of your resource, clearly identifying which side of the debate it supports.

3. Make a conclusion! In one paragraph (3-5 sentences), explain your opinion on this issue using your resources to help support your conclusion. There is NO right or wrong answer for this question, just your opinion.

4. Now that you have spent some time researching the issue of solar activity and climate change, explain why this is considered such a “hot topic”. Why do you think people would become so passionate about this debate?